Purchase of Rice for Export

1868. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MMTC floated tender around September, 1997 for sale of rice lying at Gandhidham, Kandla in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that stock lying unsold for three years was purchased for export;

(c) what was the exact quantity purchased for export and at what rate per MT;

(d) what were the reasons for not exporting; and

(e) how much quantity was sold in domestic market and at what rate?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes Sir; MMTC, however, floated the tender in Oct/Nov. 1997.

(b) Yes, the purchases were made against the export order received by MMTC.

(c) The quantity received on trust receipt is 32931.150 metric tonne. The purchase contract were finalised @Rs. 8340 per metric tonne of which part quantity of 5000 metric tonnes was finalised @ Rs. 8325 per metric tonne, FOB/Kandla basis.

(d) The reason for non-export was due to port congestion at Kandla and non-availability of appropriate vessels at that time. Subsequently, a quantity of approximately 10,863 metric tonnes was exported to Czech Republic.

(e) The quantity sold in domestic market is 18986 metric tonne @Rs. 6110 per metric tonne on as-is-where-is basis. Additionally, 222 metric tonne of sold quantity not lifted was later disposed off @ Rs. 2510 per metric tonne.